AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A video-on-demand system enabling a user to modify play parameters of a selected video, said system comprising:

a media server for transmitting an encoded video signal comprising the selected video, said media server generating a first series of searchable index frames from the encoded video signal during transmission of the encoded video signal, and storing said first series of searchable index frames thereon;

a client player for receiving the encoded video signal and displaying the selected video, said client player generating a second series of searchable index frames from the received encoded video signal and storing the second series of searchable index frames thereon, said client player accessing said first series or said second series of searchable index frames and obtaining a required searchable index frame therefrom [[upon]] in response to receipt of a request to modify the play parameters for display of the selected video, said required searchable index frame providing a new starting point for displaying the selected video, said media server and said client player being operatively connected by a communication network.

2. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 1, further comprising a video database operatively coupled to said media server, said video database comprising a plurality of selectable videos selectable by the user.

3. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 2, wherein said selectable videos in the video database are in an encoded format.

4. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 2, further comprising a feature database operatively coupled to said media server, said feature database comprising a plurality of extracted features, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features are associated with one of the selectable videos in the video database.

5. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of extracted features provide a means for said user to search and identify a video for subsequent display based on a desired criteria represented by one or more of the plurality of extracted features.

6. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features is either one of a word identifier or an image identifier.

7. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features is a movie clip representative of one of the selectable videos in the video database.

8. (Original): The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, further comprising a video production module for encoding each of said videos into an encoded format.

9. (Original): The video-on-demand system according to claim 8, wherein said video production module further generates said extracted features.

10. (Currently Amended): The video-on-demand system according to claim 1, further comprises a user account management module for providing a means for controlling user access.

11. (Currently Amended): A method for enabling a user to modify play parameters of a selected video in a video-on-demand system, said method comprising:

establishing a connection between a media server and a client player;

receiving, by said media player, a request for the selected video from said client player;

transmitting, by said media player, an encoded video signal comprising the selected video to the client player;

generating, at the media player, a first series of searchable index frames from the encoded video signal while transmitting the encoded video signal, and storing the first series of searchable index frames at the media player;

receiving the video signal and displaying said selected video by the client player;

generating, at the client player, a second series of searchable index frames from the received encoded video signal while receiving the encoded video signal, storing said second series of searchable index frames and displaying the selected video at the client player;

receiving, by the client player, a request to modify play parameters of the selected video;

searching said first series or second series of searchable index frames for a required searchable index frame, said required searchable index frame providing a new starting point for displaying said selected video;

displaying said selected video from said new starting point; and

terminating said connection between a media server and a client player [[upon]] in response to completion of display of the selected video.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, comprising, after establishing a connection between said media player and said client player,

searching a feature database, said feature database comprising a plurality of extracted features, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features are associated with one of a plurality of videos in a video database;

selecting a desired video from the video database based on one or more of the plurality of extracted features; and

transmitting the request for the selected video from the client player.

13. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 12, comprising prior to establishing a connection between said media player and said client player, authenticating the user.

14. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, comprising, prior to authenticating the user,

encoding a plurality of videos for subsequent transmission;

saving said encoded videos in the video database;

identifying one or more extracted features for each of the plurality of videos; and

saving said extracted features in a searchable configuration in the features database.

15. (Original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the media server is connected to a plurality of client players.

16. (New): The video-on-demand system according to claim 1, wherein the encoded video signal comprises I-frames, P-frames, and B-frames.

17. (New): The video-on-demand system according to claim 16, wherein generating the first and second searchable index frames comprises generating the first and second searchable index frames from the I-frames of the encoded video signal.

18. (New): The video-on-demand system according to claim 16, wherein generating the first and second searchable index frames comprises generating the first and second searchable index frames from the P-frames of the encoded video signal.

19. (New): The method according to claim 11, wherein the encoded video signal comprises I-frames, P-frames, and B-frames.

20. (New): The method according to claim 19, wherein generating, at the media player, the first series of searchable index frames comprises generating the first series of searchable index frames from the I-frames of the encoded video signal.

21. (New): The method according to claim 19, wherein generating, at the media player, the first series of searchable index frames comprises generating the first series of searchable index frames from the P-frames of the encoded video signal.

22. (New): The method according to claim 19, wherein generating, at the client player, the second series of searchable index frames comprises generating the second series of searchable index frames from the I-frames of the encoded video signal.

23. (New): The method according to claim 19, wherein generating, at the client player, the second series of searchable index frames comprises generating the second series of searchable index frames from the P-frames of the encoded video signal.